

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04

INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCI-06 CEQ-02

EPA-04 RSR-01 /251 W

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R 221036Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1311

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS GENEVA 4493

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS AND
AMCON HONG KONG

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJECT: LOS: SEABED COMMITTEE MEETING, SUMMARY
SEVENTH WEEK

1. OVERALL SUMMARY. US REP DELIVERED STATEMENT ON
ZONE-LOCKED STATES. BOTH SUBCOMTE I AND WORKING
GROUP (WG) APPROVED THEIR REPORTS. SUBCOMTE II
HEARD NUMBER OF SPEAKERS EXPLAIN DRAFT PROPOSALS OR
POSITIONS. SUBCOMTE II WG COLLECTED MASSIVE NUMBER
OF DRAFT ALTERNATIVES UNDER VARIOUS LIST ITEMS AND
WAS LARGELY UNSUCCESSFUL IN CONSOLIDATING TEXTS.
SC.III COMMENCED CONSIDERATION OF ITS REPORT AND
WAS AWAITING INPUT FROM ITS WG'S.

2. MAIN COMTE. US REP (JOHN NORTON MOORE) GAVE
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STATEMENT ON PROBLEM FACED BY ZONE-LOCKED STATES.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IF COASTAL STATE JURISDICTION CAPABLE OF AFFECTING NAVIGATIONAL FREEDOMS WERE TO EXTEND AS FAR AS 200 MILES SEAWARD, APPROXIMATELY 61 COASTAL STATES WOULD BE TOTALLY ZONE-LOCKED IN THAT THEY WOULD HAVE NO ACCESS TO OCEAN EXCEPT THROUGH ZONES OF ONE OR MORE NEIGHBORING STATES.

3. SUBCOMTE I. WG ON SEABED MACHINERY COMPLETED ITS FINAL CONSIDERATION OF POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF ASSEMBLY AND COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY, COMPOSITION OF THESE TWO BODIES AND ARTICLES ON DISPUTE SETTLEMENT AND THE ENTERPRISE. AT ITS 90TH SESSION, WG GAVE APPROVAL TO ITS FINAL REPORT TO WHICH WILL BE ATTACHED APPROXIMATELY 40 DRAFT ARTICLES DEALING WITH SEABED REGIME. SUBCOMTE I MET ONCE AND APPROVED WG REPORT PLUS ITS OWN REPORT.

4. SUBCOMTE II. A. SUBCOMTE II HEARD NUMBER OF CO-SPONSORS OF PROPOSALS EXPLAIN THEIR DRAFT PROPOSALS. OTHER DELEGATIONS GAVE GENERAL STATEMENTS OUTLINING CERTAIN MAIN ELEMENTS IN THEIR POSITIONS. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST WAS AUSTRALIA'S SUPPORT FOR ARCHIPELAGIC CONCEPT IN PRINCIPLE PROVIDED OBJECTIVE CRITERIA COULD BE FOUND. USSR LAID DOWN CONDITIONS FOR POSSIBLE SUPPORT OF ARCHIPELAGIC PRINCIPLES.

B. SUBCOMTE II WG AGREED ON DRAFT ALTERNATIVE TEXTS FOR ITEM 2.4 (INNOCENT PASSAGE IN THE TERRITORIAL SEA), ITEM 4 (STRAITS USED FOR INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION) AND ITEM 16 (ARCHIPELAGOES). ITEM 2.1 (TERRITORIAL SEA NATURE AND CHARACTERISTICS) WAS REDUCED TO FOUR DRAFT ALTERNATIVE TEXTS. ON RESOURCE ITEMS, MANY DELEGATIONS SUBMITTED NEW ALTERNATIVE TEXTS OR REQUESTED THAT PROPOSALS ALREADY BEFORE SUBCOMTE II BE PLACED UNDER APPROPRIATE LIST ITEM. LAST THREE SESSIONS OF WG WERE DEVOTED TO UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS TO REDUCE NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVES UNDER ITEM 2.3.2 (BREADTH OF TERRITORIAL SEA). CHAIRMAN SUBMITTED REPORT ON WG TO SUBCOMTE II.

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5. SUBCOMTE III. A. SUBCOMTE III COMMENCED CONSIDERATION OF REPORT TO MAIN COMTE CONCLUDING ALL ASPECTS EXCEPT ATTACHED REPORTS OF WG'S ON MARINE POLLUTION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

B. WG ON MARINE POLLUTION AGREED TO CONTAIN QUOTE FROM WG CHAIRMAN TO CHAIRMAN SUBCOMTE III ON WORK

THIS SESSION. BRAZIL AT LAST MEETING INTRODUCED
IN WG ALTERNATIVE TEXTS TO ARTICLES PREPARED BY
INFORMAL DRAFTING GROUP IN NEW YORK AND GENEVA, BUT
AGREED THAT TEXTS BE PLACED IN SECOND ANNEX TO
LETTER (FIRST ANNEX CONTAINS ARTICLES PREPARED BY
DRAFTING GROUP).

C. WG ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WAS UNABLE TO ACHIEVE
CONSENSUS ON ALTERNATIVE TEXTS ON ISSUE OF CONSENT
AND ALTERNATIVE REGIMES. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT WILL
THEREFORE INCLUDE ONLY DRAFTS ON DEFINITION AND
ALTERNATIVE TEXTS ON RIGHT TO UNDERTAKE SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH. SC.III CURRENTLY DEBATING REPORT OF WG
AND PROGRESS DELAYED BY ATTACKS ON CONCEPTS SUCH AS
"FREEDOM OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH" AND ZONE OF PARTIAL
COASTAL STATE JURISDICTION.

D. AN INFORMAL GROUP (INCLUDING U.S., CANADA,
TANZANIA) ATTEMPTED TO DRAFT LETTER FROM SUBCOMTE
III THROUGH MAIN COMTE TO SECRETARY GENERAL IMCO
CONFERENCE EXPRESSING VIEWS ON MARINE POLLUTION.
NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON CONTENTS WITH SOME DELS
WANTING TO TELL IMCO NOT TO TAKE ANY DEFINITIVE
DECISIONS AND TO FORWARD IMCO CONVENTION TO LOS
CONFERENCE FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL. U.S.
FAVORED SENDING SELECTED PORTIONS SUBCOMTE III AND
MAIN COMTE SUMMARY
RECORDS AND REPORTS TO IMCO FOR INFORMATION.BASSIN

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